

APG NEWS



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Installation honors vets with Appreciation Month activities

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

The commanding general has designated November as Veterans Appreciation Month on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

This means that Team APG will honor veterans throughout the month with programs and events especially for those who have served the nation in uniform.

"We're excited about this and we want to transfer that excitement to you," said APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin who is overseeing events. "Bring your flags and banners to APG in

Bring your flags and banners to APG in November when we honor you and show our love and appreciation for your service.

APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin

November when we honor you and show our love and appreciation for your service," said Ervin.

APG Veterans Day Ceremony

Activities on Saturday, Nov. 10 will be centered at the APG North (Aber-

deen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326.

The theme of the day is "Honoring All Who Served," said Capt. Maritzabel Mustafaa, commander of the Garrison's Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

"The purpose of our Veterans day

activities is to honor and thank all military personnel who served in the United States military during all wars and to pause to remember those who never came home," Mustafaa said. "This event is open to the public and we invite all veterans throughout the community inside our gates so we can show our appreciation for their service and sacrifices."

At 8 a.m., the public is invited to join in the Veterans Victory 5K Run/1 Mile Walk starting and ending at the recreation center. At 9 a.m. APG Commander, Maj. Gen.

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APG Operation Helping Hand aids Sandy survivors

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Local donors and APG Garrison Command Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerry Owens led efforts to collect and transport hurricane relief supplies from Aberdeen Proving Ground to Fort Hamilton, in Brooklyn, N.Y., Nov. 7.



Owens

According to Owens, the Fort Hamilton Unit Ministry saw a need and requested emergency supplies for survivors of Sandy, the hurricane-turned-superstorm that ravaged the northeast coast in late October. Sandy is the largest and second costliest Atlantic hurricane on record, leaving more than 100 people dead in the U.S. and a multi-billion dollar damage estimate mounting.

While Harford County was left largely unscathed by the storm, APG's northern neighbors were flooded out of their homes and businesses and continue to deal with Sandy's devastating effects.

"We are responding as one Religious Support Office to another Religious Support Office through Operation Helping Hand," Owens said.

Throughout the year chapel services designate offerings and set aside money to respond to humanitarian needs for Soldiers, DoD civilians and the community.

"We will work directly with the Fort Hamilton Religious Support Office, and they will then work with local relief agencies to respond to identified

See OPERATION, page 11



Photo by Emily Myers

Refueling at the HOOAH! tent

ATEC Command Sgt. Maj. Allen G. Fritzsching and other Team APG runners mingle in front of the MWR HOOAH! Tent during the 2012 Army Ten Miler festivities in Washington, D.C., Oct. 21. MWR sponsored three teams consisting of 19 runners and three alternates including APG and CECOM Commander Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell and Maj. Gen. Leslie Smith, commander of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE). More than three dozen members of the APG community participated in the race. View more photos and information on the APG Flickr site at www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg.

Time to winterize vehicles

Garrison Safety

Ready for winter? Not if your vehicle isn't winterized. The following tips will help get you where you need to be preventive maintenance-wise for safe travels - whether you're going to work or to Grandma's house for the holidays - during the winter season.

Tire Maintenance

Rain, snow and ice reduce tire traction and compromise control. Consider high performance/winter snow tires. They feature large directional and/or asymmetric treads to enhance handling and steering, resist hydroplaning and help tires work through snow and slush. All Season tires are the minimum legal requirement when operating a vehicle during inclement winter weather.

Check the tire pressure

Fall and early winter are the most critical times to check tire inflation pressure because the days are getting shorter and temperatures are getting colder. For every 10-degree Fahrenheit change



Courtesy photo

Safe driving at any time, but especially in winter, depends on maintaining the best visibility. These and other preventive measures will help ensure safe winter driving for all members of Team APG.

in temperature, your tire's inflation will change about one pound per square inch. The inflation goes up with higher temperatures and down with lower. Check the tire pressure in the morning before

you drive a few miles. If you park in an attached or heated garage you will lose pressure when you leave its warmth.

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WEATHER

Thurs.



46° | 32°

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STREET TALK

When do you start your holiday shopping?

I don't like shopping for Christmas until after Thanksgiving. It puts me in the holiday spirit. I try to go shopping whenever the stores have their holiday sales.



Drusilla Bond
AAFES manager

I have two small children, so I like to start my holiday shopping in October. I like to buy electronics and games on Black Friday.



Preston Saddler
CYSS employee

I put a few items on layaway in October or early November.



Spc. Jack Pardue
HHC

I start shopping in November. I like shopping online, it is convenient and some stores offer free shipping.



Karin Allen
Military Family member

OPINION

'Superstorm' shows 'Army Strong' at APG – Won't stop veterans appreciation month

As you are all aware, last week's 'superstorm' had a devastating impact up and down the East Coast. Throughout the storm and its aftermath, the foremost priority for every leader at Aberdeen Proving Ground was the safety and security of our APG Team Members and their Families. To achieve that, we activated our 24/7 APG Emergency Operations Center and made the decision to close the installation, Oct. 29 and 30. I want to take this opportunity to thank the APG EOC staff, first responders, safety personnel, Directorate of Public Works, and all of those who worked around the clock to coordinate our response to the storm – they did an absolutely tremendous job under challenging and dangerous conditions.

In fact, I'm extremely proud of the way our entire APG community responded. The courage, professionalism and resiliency of our Soldiers, Civilians and Families truly exemplify the words 'Army Strong.' I am also deeply thankful that our APG workforce weathered the storm without sustaining any casualties. However, we should also recognize that many on our APG Team either live - or have family who live - north of APG and along the coastal areas of New Jersey. Some of these areas were among the hardest hit during the storm and residents there will confront Sandy's aftermath for some time to come. I know many of you have reached out to your fellow APG Team Members and community neighbors to lend a helping hand where needed and I'd encourage everyone to keep those most affected by last week's storm in your thoughts and prayers.

Although Sandy has had a significant impact on all of us here at APG, it won't prevent us from accomplishing one of our most important missions for the month of November – taking



One of the keys to helping Veterans find good jobs is to ensure they can further their education.

time to honor our nation's Veterans. For 237 years, millions of Americans have stepped forward to do an extraordinary thing – they raised their right hand and agreed to defend our nation with their very lives. Each year, Nov. 11th is the day our country sets aside to honor them and their willingness to serve. Here at APG, where we are proud to have so many Veterans in our workforce and where we all share a mutual commitment to serving our nation; one day just won't be enough.

So this November, APG is hosting a month-long series of events that both honor our Veterans and reflect the lasting commitment our community has to Veteran's education, employment, health and well being. In fact, the Army's theme for this year's Veterans Day is 'Soldier for Life' - because the obligation we owe to our Veterans truly does last a lifetime. Fulfilling that obligation and helping to ensure the success of all of our Veterans will require a team approach by the Army, our fellow government agencies and our local communities.

In particular, we have an obligation to do all we can to help our transitioning Soldiers and our Veterans find employment. More than 130,000 Soldiers transition to civilian life each year. Their leadership experience, work ethic, and ability to perform under pressure are valuable to any organization. Our Veterans are a tremendous national resource and even in a tough economy we can - and must - do more

to put their talents and skills to work. At APG, we helped do our part by participating in a Veteran's Small Business Workshop earlier this month. We will also host a Veteran's Entrepreneur/Job Fair, Nov. 15th, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the APG Recreation Center.

One of the keys to helping Veterans find good jobs is to ensure they can further their education. As a result, APG will hold a Veterans Education Day, Nov. 19th at the Recreation Center, where service members and Veterans can meet with college and university representatives. We will host a number of fun events too, including a Victory Fun Run/Walk, a Pancake Breakfast, a Live-Band Concert and a Comedy Show, Nov. 10th at the APG Recreation Center, along with a Veterans Golf Tournament, Nov. 13th at the Ruggles Golf Course. We'll also take time to remember the sacrifices our Veterans have made during a Thanksgiving Prayer Luncheon, Nov. 16th at the APG Chapel. Be sure to check out the APG News and www.apgmwr.com throughout November for more information.

It is going to be a great month and on behalf of our entire APG Team I want to thank all of our Veterans for their extraordinary service. Together, Army Strong!

Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell
Commander, U.S. Army
Communications-Electronics Command
& Aberdeen Proving Ground

VA health care system message to vets

An armistice ending the hostilities between Germany and the Allied Nations became

effective on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. Armistice Day, which was commemorated for the first time on November 11, 1919, became a legal holiday in 1938.

Veteran service organizations urged Congress in 1954 to change the word "Armistice" to "Veterans," transforming it from a day honoring World War I heroes to one honoring all American Veterans—particularly living Veterans.

A grateful nation annually honors and recognizes more than 23.4 million living Veterans on November 11, paying respects to all who have answered the call to military service. Veterans Day provides an opportunity for all Americans to thank those who have served our nation in the armed forces.

Although our thoughts this year

remain with those in distant war zones, we must also turn our attention to those Veterans living among us, including many who recently returned from service and are facing the challenges of reintegrating into civilian life. This Veterans Day, I encourage all Marylanders to do more to honor those heroes who have served our country. While recognizing Veterans Day can be as simple as placing the American flag on your porch or reminding youngsters of a relative who served in the military, as a community we can do more. If you know a Veteran, thank them for their service. A simple gesture of kindness can make a difference for someone struggling to make the transition from military to civilian life.

If you know a Veteran who's not taking advantage of their VA health care benefits or who is struggling to find a job, reassure them that help is available. An astonishing number of Veterans—including women who often do not self-identify as Veterans—do not know about the VA health care services available to them. A phone call to enroll for VA

health care may be the most important call they ever make to maintain their health and well-being. Tell a Veteran who may not be enrolled for VA health care that there are three ways to enroll: by visiting their local VA medical center or outpatient clinic; by calling the VA Maryland Health Care System's Enrollment Center at 1-800-463-6295, ext. 7324; or by visiting the health care system's website at www.maryland.va.gov and clicking on "Become a Patient."

At the VA Maryland Health Care System, we are committed to providing the best care and service to the men and women who valiantly answered the nation's call to serve in the armed forces. Veterans are us. They are our parents and grandparents, our children and grandchildren. On this Veterans Day, we are honored to join with millions of Americans in saying to our great Veterans, "Welcome home! Thank you for your service! What can we do to help you?"

Dennis H. Smith
Director, VA Maryland Health Care System

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
46° 32°	53° 39°	57° 44°	60° 47°	63° 53°	58° 41°	49° 37°

APG NEWS

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMAP-PA, Building 305, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1153. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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IMCOM seeks to hire, retain former Soldiers in the Army civilian workforce

By **BILL BRADNER**

Installation Management Command

Army civilians serve alongside Soldiers every day, in every theater. From state-side garrisons to forward operating bases in Afghanistan, Army civilians write contracts, deliver goods, manage networks, operate ranges, manage business operations and provide support functions that would otherwise present distractions to training and wartime operations. From the sound of reveille to when a Soldier turns out the lights at the end the day, Soldiers are supported by their civilian counterparts.

There are vacant positions throughout the U.S. Army Installation Management Command which need to be filled so IMCOM can provide world-class customer service and deliver programs and services to Soldiers, civilians, and families. Throughout the command, about 40 percent of civilian employees have served in uniform.

For Soldiers considering taking off their uniform, continuing their career with the Army as a civilian is a logical transition choice, said Col. Francis Burns, at the office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management at headquarters, department of the Army.

“Have you ever wanted to live in Hawaii? Or return to Europe to live and work, while still supporting Soldiers and their families?” Burns asked. “You owe it to yourself to consider using that training and experience you earned in uniform to help you land the perfect job as a civilian.”

Federal service may be an ideal opportunity for Wounded Warriors and disabled veterans through a process called “Schedule A” appointment authority. Using Schedule A, qualified candidates with disabilities can be hired non-competitively. This speeds up the recruitment process, helping our Wounded Warriors gain employment while filling critical vacancies quickly. (See sidebar.)

Schedule A benefits both the employer and potential employee by assisting those with disabilities to gain federal employment and by shortening the hiring process — which averages 102 days using traditional methods.



Lori Mann, (right) an Army Career and Alumni Program counselor offers career guidance to a Soldier at the ACAP center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.

For example, the IMCOM headquarters placed six interns in less than 45 days using the Schedule A appointment authority and the Wounded Warrior database.

“Schedule A cuts through a lot of the red tape,” said Rufus B. Caruthers, the IMCOM EEO director. “The hiring action can take as little as two weeks, it can happen just that fast.”

There are many opportunities for Soldiers transitioning out of the Army, regardless of their status, to continue their service by joining the IMCOM team. Many of the benefits are obvious: paid job-related training and education, comprehensive benefits packages and leave accrual rates based on time-in-service. In addition to opportunities in the U.S., civilians serve around the world in locations such as Japan, Korea, Europe and Puerto Rico, among many others.

There are also many not-so-obvious benefits. The sense of camaraderie and teamwork is strong in the civilian workforce, and is cultivated just as carefully as it is among active-duty Soldiers.

Another similarity to serving on active duty is the emphasis Army civilians place on values.

“There’s not much difference in how you feel about your job and how you conduct business in and out of uniform,” said Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Willie Wilson, who

today works for IMCOM and runs the Army’s World Class Athlete Program. “And in most Army civilian positions, you’re still taking care of Soldiers and their families. I’m glad that’s still part of my job description.”

The sense of accomplishment and value is high in the Army civilian workforce. In a recent Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey, 92 percent of Federal employees answered positively to the statement “The work I do is important.”

Training and leader development is also as pervasive in the civilian workforce as it is in uniform. The Civilian Education System, modeled after the Army Non-commissioned Officer Education System, provides a full spectrum of continuing education and career development courses. Civilians are first exposed to the training at in-processing to their first duty station, and have access to schools and virtual classes to help them progress from entry-level to Senior Executive Service.

IMCOM leads the way in work force development initiatives that include yearly opportunities for developmental assignments, structured mentoring programs, and an academy dedicated to instruction of installation management professionals.

IMCOM has also developed the

See IMCOM, page 10

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FRIDAY NOV. 9 MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY LUNCH

Are you a Marine who works on APG? All Marines, Active, Reserve, Retired, FMF Corpsman, Veterans, Army civilians or DOD contractor are invited to a luncheon at Top of the Bay on Friday, Nov. 9 at noon. Cost \$15.00 paid in advance. Let's get together and celebrate our 237th birthday as is our tradition.

For more info go to www.Maryland-Marines.org or RSVP to Craig Reeling at 443-477-0670. Once a Marine, Always a Marine.

MILITARY NIGHT OUT

In honor of Veterans Day, The Restore Church, 616 Ontario Street in Havre de Grace, is offering free childcare 6 to 10 p.m. for veteran and military couples. Games, a movie, crafts, snacks and more will be available for children ages 6 weeks to 12-years-old. To register, fill out an online form at www.restorechurch.net. For more information, contact Anna Hiltibidal at 618-407-8881.

SATURDAY NOV. 10 VETERANS DAY CEREMONY AND EVENTS

Honoring all who served. Events include Victory Fun run/Walk at 8 a.m.; Veterans Day ceremony at 9 a.m.; Pancake Breakfast at 9:45 a.m.; Live Band Performances at 11 a.m. and the Laugh Out Loud (LOL) Comedy Show at 8 p.m. For more information contact Capt. Maritzabel Mustafaa at 410-278-2104 or maritzabel.mustafaa.mil@mail.mil

LAUGH OUT LOUD TOUR FREE FOR VETERANS

Come enjoy an evening of pure hilarity as MWR presents the Laugh Out Loud 2012 Comedy Tour featuring active duty service members and veterans. The headliner is Josh Blue, winner of NBC's "Last Comic Standing." Entertainers include "The GIs of Comedy:" USAF Maj. Jake Sarduy, retired Army Staff Sgt. Thom Tran, former USMC Sgt. Will C, and former

Army Pfc. Tom Irwin. Comedian/Soldier Jody Fully will emcee. Doors open 7 p.m.; show starts 8 p.m.

There will be free food and a cash bar. General admission is \$15; \$12 for CAC ID holders. Veterans and active duty military are admitted free. This show contains adult content; guests must be 18 and older. For more information, visit the Leisure Travel Office in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011, or go to the APG MWR website at www.apgmwr.com.

TUESDAY NOV. 13 VETERANS GOLF TOURNAMENT

FMWR will hold a Captain's Choice, Four Person Scramble Golf Tournament honoring the nation's veterans with a Shot Gun start of 8:30 a.m. at Ruggles Golf Course. The event is open to all veterans.

The \$60 price includes 18 holes, a golf cart and lunch. Sign up at the golf course.

For more information, contact Richard Bond, Ruggles manager, at 410-278-4794 or e-mail richard.j.bond10.naf@mail.mil

DOGS HEALING HIDDEN WOUNDS

Learn how the unconditional love of pets can help heal wounded veterans during the Science Café, 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Abingdon Public Library, 2510 Tollgate Parkway in Abingdon. Guest speaker Lynne Gartenhaus is the volunteer executive director of Companions 4 Heroes which provides companion animals and skilled companion and service dogs from shelters for free to military personnel, veterans and first responders recovering from psychological challenges suffered during their service. This event is free and open to the public. RSVP at info@nmtsciencecafe.org or call 443-360-9134. For more information, visit www.nmtsciencecafe.org.

THURSDAY NOV. 15 SAME MEETING

The Society of American Military

Engineers (SAME) Chesapeake Post will hold its November meeting 11:30 am at the Wetland Golf Club in Aberdeen. The featured speaker is Lt. Col. Brad Endres, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Deputy District Commander, Baltimore District. His presentation is titled, "Baltimore District FY13 Program Overview." Pre-register online at <http://www.same-chesapeake.org>. Walk-ins are welcome. For more information call 410-638-9699.

APG VETERANS ENTREPRENEUR DAY

This event provides Veterans an opportunity to meet and listen to other Veterans and to learn of valuable skills and products they have to offer, the opportunity to begin the contracting or hiring process, to offer their business products and services to potential buyers or partners and to offer problem-solving skills to potential employers.

Opening the event will be COL Gregory McClinton, APG garrison commander; CSM James Ervin, APG garrison command sergeant major, will speak on support for Veterans and Justen Garrity, Iraq Veteran and entrepreneur will be the keynote speaker.

Event runs on Nov. 15 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the APG Rec Center, Bldg. 3326. For more information, contact Angela Corrieri at 443-6194968 or e-mail acorrr@startupparkersinc.org.

SATURDAY NOV. 17 CROP TILL YOU DROP

Seasoned or beginning scrap bookers, gather your photos and enjoy a day of scrapbooking with your friends. Come and "Crop Till You Drop" from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg 3326.

The cost is \$25. Call to reserve a seat or table. For more information or to make reservations, contact Patti Harkins, Civilian Welfare Fund Office, at 410-436-4467 or e-mail patricia.e.harkins.naf@mail.mil

The day includes lunch and door prizes and giveaways. Vendors will be available with a variety of scrapbooking necessities.

MONDAY NOV. 19 VETERANS EDUCATION DAY

As part of American Education Week, Aberdeen Proving Ground is sponsoring Veterans Education Day at the APG recreation center, Bldg. 3326, on Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more information, contact Tressie Stout at (410)306-2042.

HOLIDAY SHARING PROGRAM

The APG community is constantly reminded of the great sacrifices of the men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces. During these difficult and stressful times, some military Families are experiencing financial hardship and require additional assistance. Aberdeen Proving Ground works closely with these military Families providing supportive services throughout the year. To make this holiday season a little bit brighter for some of these Families. APG is hosting the "2012 Holiday Gift Sponsor Program." Individuals, groups, organizations and agencies desiring to sponsor a military Family can contact Financial Readiness Program Manager, 410.278.2450, fax 410.278.9685

SATURDAY NOV. 24 NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP

Spend the day in the Big Apple, at your leisure. There will be plenty of time for shopping, taking in the sights or catching a Broadway Show. The cost is \$46 per person for round trip coach fare. Bus departs APG at 6 a.m. and returns approximately 10 p.m. For more information or to make reservations, contact Patti Harkins, Civilian Welfare Fund Office, at 410-436-4467 or e-mail patricia.e.harkins.naf@mail.mil

TUESDAY NOV. 27 NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH OBSERVANCE

RDECOM along with Team APG will host this year's National American Indian Heritage Month Observance

MD Route 715 gate operations return to normal

Weekend closure of the MD Route 715 gate has ceased with the completion of unexploded ordnance (UXO) survey operations at the Maryland Pond. Rurik Loder, installation restoration program manager, said the operation closed ahead of schedule with no UXO findings.

He expressed thanks to the Directorates of Emergency Services and Public Works and MWR's Ruggles Golf Course for their leadership and assistance during the closure.

"Now we can be confident that the people who will work in that area will be safe," Loder said.

Nov. 27 at the APG Recreation Center 10:30-11:30 a.m. For more information or to volunteer, contact Sgt. 1st Class David J. Hall, RDECOM Equal Opportunity Advisor @ 306-2425 or david.j.hall.mil@mail.mil

WEDNESDAY

NOV. 28

HCC MILITARY APPRECIATION BASKETBALL

Harford Community College invites all active duty military, veterans and their Family members to attend the Nov.28 double-header Men's and Women's basketball games free-of-charge.

The HCC Fighting Owls will take on Baltimore City Community College. Women's tipoff is at 5 p.m. and the Men's game follows at 7 p.m. in the school's new arena.

Service members and veterans are asked to show their ID at the ticket window. Each will receive up to four tickets to the games.

For more information, visit the HCC website on Facebook at www.facebook.com/harfordcc or call 410-836-4000, Ext. 2408.

THROUGH DEC. 3

APG SOUTH FOOD, TOY AND GIFT DRIVE

Benefits Civilian and military Families in the community. Donation boxes are located in the lobbies of JPEO-CBD, Bldgs. E2800, E3551, E5101; PEO ACWA, Bldg. E3331; CMA, Bldgs. E4405, E4517, E4585, E4586, E4588; ECBC, Bldgs. E3150, E3330, E3400, E3510, E3516, E3549, E3831, E3942, E4301, E5100, E5232, E5234, E5560, E5951; and USAMRICE, Bldgs. E3100, E3081.

For more information, contact Mary Doak at mary.l.doak.civ@mail.mil or phone 410-436-7231

SATURDAY

DEC. 8

FREE SKATING AT ICE WORLD

Enjoy free admission courtesy of CWF from 5:45 to 7:45 p.m. Bring your own skates or rent them. Advance reservations required. For more information or to make reservations, contact Patti Harkins, Civilian Welfare Fund Office, at 410-436-4467 or e-mail patricia.e.harkins.naf@mail.mil

ONGOING

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

The annual Combined Federal Campaign is underway. For a list of charities or to make a contribution, visit https://www.cfcnexus.org/_chesapeake/ For more information, contact Tom Johnson at 410-278-6456 or e-mail thomas.g.johnson5.civ@mail.mil.

THANK THE TROOPS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Shutterfly, Inc. has launched its Thank the Troops campaign and invites everyone to send a thank you card to military service members and veterans in VA hospitals this holiday season. Sending a free card is easy. Simply access the Facebook app, select a card, add a personal message or photo, and click send. Shutterfly will take care of the printing and delivery. Completed cards will be distributed to troops and veterans nationwide and overseas. Pick up MyArmyphotos cards at the recre-

ation centers to login for a free Photo Book. To learn more and to create a card visit <https://apps.facebook.com/thankthetroops/>.

CPR, AED CLASSES SLATED

The APG Fire and Emergency Services Division of the Directorate of Emergency Services is offering CPR and automated external defibrillator classes in the coming weeks. Two classes will be held the third Wednesday of each month from September through December.

Dates, times and locations are:

■ Nov. 21, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the APG North Chapel

■ Dec. 19, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Edgewood Conference Center, Bldg. E4810

Class size is limited to 30 participants.

For more information or to register, contact Mike Slayman, assistant chief of EMS, at 410-306-0566 or e-mail michael.p.slayman.civ@mail.mil.

NEW U-FOOD GRILL OPEN IN BLDG. 6010

The newest U-Food Grill has opened in Bldg. 6010. Hours of oper-

ation are Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

APG SOUTH 25TH ANNUAL FOOD, TOY AND GIFT DRIVE

APG South (Edgewood) organizations kicked off the 25th Annual Food, Toy and Gift Drive Oct. 29 and it continues through Dec. 3. Donations will be distributed to less fortunate civilian Families within the community. Needed are new and gently-used toys for children of all ages (infant to teen) and non-perishable, un-expired food items. In addition, the group will sponsor military families selected through Army Community Service. A children's wish list will be posted on the Internet at <https://ftg.apgea.army.mil/default.aspx>.

For more information, contact Mary Doak at 410-436-7231 or e-mail mary.l.doak.civ@mail.mil.



MORE ONLINE

More events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/calendar.

APG honors vets with ceremonies, events

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Robert Ferrell will lead the APG Veterans Day Ceremony which includes Recognition of community Veteran Service Organizations and a speech by guest speaker Craig Carpenter. A former Army sergeant, Carpenter is a Desert Storm veteran and Department of Veterans Affairs spokesperson. He joined the Army in 1984 and served in Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm and Somalia as a medic. In 1994, he was honorably discharged from the Army in Washington, D.C. and decided to stay in the area. Carpenter exited the Army with diabetes, high blood pressure and multiple sclerosis. Wheelchair-bound, he began using the services of the VA Medical Center in November 1999 and presently is a volunteer working in the Outpatient Laboratory. Carpenter is a strong voice for VA health care and an advocate for disabled veterans. Because of his knowledge of the VA system and My HealtheVet, in particular, he is a frequent veteran spokesperson who encourages other veterans to access VA health care.

The event concludes with a free breakfast following the ceremony and concert by Country recording artist and Baltimore native Dean Crawford, leader of the Dunn's River Band. The Jamaican-born singer-songwriter has been entertaining audiences from Maryland to Nashville more than 15 years. Crawford has opened for some of the top names in Country music and performs regularly in the Mid-Atlantic region, from Baltimore to

Atlantic City to West Virginia's Charleston Races & Slots. This will be Crawford's third appearance at APG. His first was a Salute the Troops concert shortly after the start of the Iraq War. He came back in 2007 to warm up the crowd during the first Montgomery Gentry concert. Recently awarded U.S. citizenship, Crawford jumped at the chance to return to APG. "I want to do this for the veterans; I want to do this for the troops," he said.

LOL Comedy Tour

Later that evening, have a hilarious good time during the Laugh Out Loud Comedy Tour featuring Josh Blue, the winner of NBC's Last Comic Standing and the GI's of Comedy – real military veterans from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps at the Post Theater. As a salute, veterans and active-duty military are admitted free. All others pay just \$15; \$12 for CAC ID card holders. Light fare is included and there will be a cash bar. Doors open 7 p.m.; show starts 8 p.m. This show contains adult content. Patrons must be 18 or older to attend

Other Veterans Month events include:

Nov. 11

Col. Gregory McClinton, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, will be the guest speaker at the Annual Veterans Day Service, 11 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park in Aberdeen, hosted by the Catholic War Veterans.

Nov. 13

The Honoring Our Nation's Veterans Golf Tournament will be held at Ruggles Golf Course with a Shot Gun Start, 8:30 a.m. to noon and includes, Four Person Scramble, Captain's Choice. The \$60 price includes 18 holes of golf, a golf cart and lunch. Prizes will be awarded to the top winners. Sign up at Ruggles Golf Course. For more information, call 410-278-4794 or e-mail richard.j.bond10.naf@mail.mil.

Nov. 15

A Veterans Entrepreneur Job Fair will be held 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326 Erie Street. The Job Fair seeks to provide veterans an opportunity to exhibit as an entrepreneur, offering business products and services and as an Intrapreneur, offering problem-solving skills to potential employers. McClinton and Ervin will offer remarks along with keynote speaker Justen Garrity, and Iraq War veteran and owner of Veteran Compost in Aberdeen.

Nov. 16

Veterans and Gold Star Families are invited to attend the Thanksgiving Prayer Luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel. "This is a way for us to honor those who have courageously served, to stand by those who have persevered through loss and to offer thanksgiving and prayer to the entire APG community," Mustafaa said.

Prayers, special recognitions, music

and a keynote address will precede the luncheon, a buffet-style meal in the chapel Fellowship Hall

Nov. 19

During Veterans Education Day, to be held 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326 Erie Street, veterans will receive information on college programs and services. "This celebration of American Education Week is to show support to our veterans seeking to better themselves," Mustafaa said.

Invited colleges and universities are University of Maryland University College, Florida Institute of Technology, Central Michigan University, Harford Community College, Wilmington University, and the two visiting institutions: Excelsior College and University of Phoenix. The Maryland Veterans Affairs coordinator Troops to Teacher programs, the American Legion Auxiliary and ROTC programs will be on hand to provide educational information and opportunities.

Nov. 7-28

Each Wednesday in November, APG troops are encouraged to "Take A Vet To Lunch."

For more information, check the APG website, www.apg.army.mil, the APG News, www.apgnews.apg.army.mil, and APG social media sites: [facebook.com/APGmd](https://www.facebook.com/APGmd); twitter.com/USAGAPG; [flickr.com/photos/usagapg](https://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg); [apg.army.live.dodlive.mil/](https://www.apg.army.live)

Meet **Richard (Rick) Bond**, business manager for the APG Golf Program at the Ruggles and Exton courses. With the slowdown that typically occurs as the winter season takes hold, Bond says exciting happenings are taking place at the courses.

For example, this week, The Exton Café opened for lunchtime diners. With new furniture, flat-screen TVs and other updated décor, the Exton Café boasts a menu strong in protein and light fare. Specials include the On The Green salad selections like Michigan Cherry and the ever popular Chicken Caesar; Signature Sandwedges on Ciabatta bread, side orders, soups and chili.

By the end of the week, patrons will be able to view the Exton Café menu online, call in their orders and use one of four designated Take-out parking spaces



Richard (Rick) Bond Business manager, APG Golf Program at the Ruggles and Exton courses

when picking up their orders.

Another golf program special is the extension of the Sunday Brunch in Ruggles' Sutherland Grille. The Sunday Brunch now is a weekly event due to popular demand. The Sunday Brunch is 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and costs \$9.95 for

adults and \$5.95 for children ages 7 and younger. The price includes breakfast and lunch items including an omelet station, a Belgian waffle station; a full-scale salad bar, eggs to order, biscuits, gravy and sausage and more.

In addition, during football season,

folks can stay for the NFL Ticket, Bond said, which broadcasts all Sunday games, lasts 1 to 7 p.m. and features several TV screens for Ravens and non-Ravens fans.

Ruggles also is available for holiday and office parties, meetings, baby showers and other special events, Bond said.

"We run the gamut of hosting different events and hope to continue to meet the community's needs," he said.

He added that the best part of his job is interacting with the different visitors, clients and guests from on and off post.

"Everyone is unique and interesting in their own way; golfers and non-golfers alike," he said. "We're a part of this community year-round and we want to be thought of as more than just a golf course." For more information, contact Bond at richard.j.bond10.naf@mail.mil or visit www.apgmwr.com.

Safety first - tips to winterize your vehicle

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Check tire treads and sidewalls

Look for uneven tread wear. Take a U.S. penny and insert it Lincoln-head first into your tire tread at the most worn part of the tire. If you see the top of Lincoln's head, you may need new tires. Cut or damaged sidewalls are also weak areas that can collapse under severe conditions.

Under the hood

Check the battery. It takes a lot more power to start a car when it is cold outside. Check for clean and tight connections and proper fluid levels. Remove corrosion (a whitish powder) from battery terminals. Baking soda and water solution is a good cleaner.

Check the cooling system. Coolant systems keep your car warm. Check the level, acidity and concentration of radiator fluids at least every 3,000 miles to keep the engine from overheating. A mixture of 50 percent antifreeze and 50 percent water will protect the engine block from temperatures above -40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Clean the fuel system. Add a de-icer to the fuel tank to keep moisture in the fuel system from freezing.

Change the oil and oil filter. Check your owner's manual for the grade of oil recommended for winter. In most cases, 10w30 oil works year-round.

Inspect and/or replace parts such as your air filter, rubber hoses, and drive belts.

Check for transmission, brake, differential, power steering and windshield washer fluid, levels.

Jump-Starting a car battery

With temperatures in the teens and below, the one thing that should be in the trunk of every vehicle is a pair of jumper cables. Car batteries have a life span of anywhere from three to five years, with four years as a good average. If a battery is that old, it's a good idea to get it checked before cold weather sets in.

Cars today are loaded with electronic devices that require much more from a

battery than earlier models. This causes a lot of parasitic drain on batteries. Parasitic drain is the load on the battery when the ignition is off. Most vehicles have clocks, engine management computers, alarm systems, etc, that all place energy demands on a battery even while it is turned off.

Cold weather is really tough on batteries. At a mild 32 degrees Fahrenheit, a battery is 35 percent weaker. At zero degrees, a car's battery loses about 60 percent of its strength.

Follow these suggestions to jump start a vehicle:

Check the owner's manual before jump-starting a car. Some new cars have specific instructions or prohibit jump-starting.

Make sure you have a pair of jumper cables that are free of rust and corrosion and have no exposed wires. (Never use electrical tape to cover exposed wires.)

Never jump-start a battery if the car's fluids are frozen.

If it is okay to jump-start the car, attach the jumper cables correctly. Follow the diagram below to correctly connect a battery for jump starting.

If you get no click when turning the key to start make sure the cables are making a good commotion.

Batteries contain sulfuric acid, which gives off flammable and explosive gas when a battery is charged or jump-started. Never smoke or operate anything that may cause a spark around a battery.

Wear splash-proof, polycarbonate goggles with the designation Z-87 on the frame. This certifies that the goggles are meant for activities such as automotive repair.

Never throw an automobile battery in a garbage dumpster or leave it in a parking lot, especially if it is cracked or damaged. Take it to a service station and have it disposed of properly.

Step 1: Pull the assisting car up to the dead car close enough so the cables can reach but not so close that the cars touch. Turn off headlights, blinkers, radios and heating systems, and unplug accessories

from power sockets on the dead car.

Step 2: Pop the hoods. Locate the batteries in each car and identify the positive (+) and negative (-) terminals. Wear goggles to protect your eyes in case of explosion.

Step 3: Identify the jumper cables: Red is for the positive charge, black for the negative. The thicker the cables, the better the jump. Don't let the clamps of the opposing cables touch, or you may get shocked.

Step 4: Take the red jumper cable and affix one clamp to the positive post of the dead car battery. Affix the other clamp of the red cable to the positive post of the live car battery.

Step 5: Take the black jumper cable and affix one clamp to the negative post of the live car battery. Affix the other clamp of the black cable NOT to the negative post of the dead battery, but to a metal part of the dead car's engine block, such as a bolt.

Step 6: Start the engine of the assisting car. Start the dead car. Once it cranks, leave it running for a few minutes to draw a charge from the good battery.

Note: If you get no click when turning the key to start make sure the cables are making a good commotion.

Step 7: With both cars running, remove the cables in the reverse order from which you placed them. Be sure to take your car to get your battery checked.

Safety first

Do not attempt to jump a car if:

You smell gas or acid; see the battery leaking liquid or see an electrical spark; or the battery has come out of the battery tray. Instead, call a tow truck to take it to an auto mechanic.

Visibility

Safe driving at any time, but especially in winter, depends on maintaining the best visibility possible. Replace worn wiper blades and ensure front and rear window defrosters function properly. Ensure your washer fluid is "no freeze"

and keep extra on hand to fill the reservoir when needed. Completely scrape all ice or snow off the windows before driving, especially the windshield. Clean as much snow off the roof as possible to prevent it from blowing onto the vehicles behind.

Winter Safety Kit

Prepare a winter safety kit to keep in your car at all times. Be sure to include:

Winter necessities such as tire chains, ice scraper, extra washer fluid, boots and gloves, an abrasive material such as sand, kitty litter or old house shingles for traction in case you get stuck in mud or snow.

Emergency supplies such as extra clothing, blankets, flashlight with spare batteries, energy bars or dried snacks, drinking water, a battery-powered radio with spare batteries, a first aid kit, booster cables, safety flares, a small shovel, a jug of water and funnel for radiator refills and a reflective vest.

Also include tools and fix-it supplies such as a screwdriver, pliers, rubber hammer, wrench, a can of penetrating oil and a small throw rug or shower curtain (for kneeling next to or lying under your car).

Driving tips

No matter how safe your car is, winter driving requires extra attention. Brake gently, accelerate gently and steer gently. Also, remember the following tips:

As every driver's education teacher repeats, steer into a skid. Do not rely on all wheel and four-wheel drive.

If you get stuck in the snow, throw kitty litter, old newspapers or dirt in front of and behind the drive wheels.

In snow conditions, drive in lower gears. Avoid using your overdrive features.

Always keep your gas tank at least half full.

Plan your travel and route. Check the weather, road conditions and traffic reports. Leave early enough to allow time to get to your destination safely. Let someone know your destination and your anticipated arrival time.

IMCOM works to hire, retain veterans

Continued from Page 3

IMCOM Enterprise Placement Program to help ensure the command can keep employees in the organization once hired. IEPP matches job vacancies at Army installations around the world with qualified IMCOM employees already serving in another capacity. The voluntary referral and placement program is designed to give employees affected by structure and resourcing changes the opportunity to relocate and find the best fit to continue serving the Army family. The IEPP enables the command to retain institutional knowledge and preserve its superior workforce, all while continuing the Army's "I will never quit" philosophy that so many Army civilians take to heart.

"That's our version of leaving no Soldier behind," said Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter, IMCOM commanding general. "We owe it to our dedicated civilians and to the Soldiers we support to do everything we can to keep a highly-motivated, highly-qualified workforce in place to maintain our infrastructure and sustain our Army." Ferriter remarked that there are more than 2,000 positions available today worldwide throughout IMCOM.

To learn more about the IEPP or civilian job opportunities within the Installation Management Command, visit the IMCOM homepage at www.imcom.army.mil.

Schedule A: The basics for those with disabilities

1. Wounded Warriors or disabled persons seeking a position in the Federal Government should register with one (or more) of the following agencies:

* The Employer Assistance and Recruiting Network, <http://earnworks.com>, is a free service that connects employers with active duty, veteran and civilian disabled job candidates.

* The Workforce Recruitment Program, <http://wrp.gov>, is a recruitment and referral program that recently grad-

uated students with disabilities through both summer and permanent jobs.

* Veterans and wounded warriors should contact the Department of Labor's Veterans Employment & Training Service at www.dol.gov/vets/welcome, the Hire Hero's program at www.hireheroesusa.org, and the Wounded Warriors project at www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

* Other resources include the Office of Personnel Management's disability site at www.opm.gov/disability and the

federal government's one-stop website for people with disabilities, their families, employers, veterans and service members: www.disabilityinfo.gov.

2. Once registered, the Selective Placement Coordinator or Disability Program Manager at the agency taking advantage of the Schedule A hiring authority will search the databases above, as well as counterparts at other agencies, and provide a list of qualified disabled candidate to the hiring authority.

Schedule A: The basics for employers

1. Hiring managers should coordinate with their agency's Selective Placement Coordinator or Disability Program Manager, usually found in the garrison's EEO offices, and describe the competencies required for the position.

2. The SPC/DPM will consult with numerous resources, including local colleges and universities, the Wounded Warrior program, EARN and the Department of Labor's Workforce Recruiting Program (to name a few) and develop a list of eligible candidates. No job

announcement is required.

3. The hiring official reviews the list, conducts interviews, and makes a selection. (Hiring officials also have the option of not selecting from the list and using the traditional hiring process.)

4. Once a selection decision is made, the agency's HR office makes an offer to the candidate.

"Schedule A has been around for as long as I've been in Federal service," said Rufus B. Caruthers, the IMCOM EEO director, "but as the number of dis-

abled vets grows, and with the President's emphasis on hiring disabled vets, we'll see a big increase in the number of people hired under that authority."

For employers, that means more qualified candidates to choose from. And for people with disabilities seeking employment, it means a significant growth in the number of hiring authorities using those databases to select candidates.

For more information, visit your local EEO or Wounded Warrior office, or go online to www.disabilityinfo.gov.

APG SNAPSHOT

A peek at the events making news in and around U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground. For complete photo coverage, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/>.



Photo by Rachel Ponder

FALL FUN

Children from the APG South (Edgewood) youth center play in the fall leaves after school Oct. 25.



Photo by Rachel Ponder

PLANT THE PROMISE

From left) Samantha Devorak, 11, and Tykel Wilson, 6, plant flowers in honor of National Red Ribbon Week at the APG South (Edgewood) youth center Oct. 25. Before planting flowers, Army Substance Abuse Program Prevention Coordinator Cindy Scott (not pictured) talked about abstaining from drugs and alcohol. The flowers will bloom in April during Alcohol Awareness Month. National Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 23-Oct. 31, is the largest and oldest drug prevention program in the nation.



Photo by Rachel Ponder

CECOM SLIM DOWN CHALLENGE

(From left) Second place winner of the CECOM Slim Down Challenge Josalyn Gregory, from CECOM G3/5, and third place winner Ramona Golden, from CECOM LRC, exercise in the APG North (Aberdeen) fitness center after work. During this three month challenge, the first place winner, Nancy Toth, from CERDEC (not pictured) lost 27.2 pounds. Gregory lost 13 pounds and Golden lost 12 pounds. The next CECOM Slim Down Challenge will start Dec. 5 with an initial weigh-in at the Myer Auditorium from noon to 2 p.m. Pre-registration begins this week. To pre-register, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7910 or Tiffany.L.Grimes.civ@mail.mil.



FAMILY FUN AT HALLELUJAH HARVEST

Jaslene Elegar, 4, tries to hit a piñata during the annual Hallelujah Harvest hosted by the main post chapel Oct. 31. About 180 people, including volunteers from the Protestant, Catholic, and Gospel congregations, attended the event, which featured carnival-style games, crafts, food and more.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



Photo by Rachel Ponder

APG WELCOMES NEWCOMERS

Kristina Young from Bay Area Dental talks with Chase Polk and Deborah Stowell, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, during the quarterly Newcomer's Orientation at the APG North recreation center Oct. 17. The next Newcomer's Orientation will be held at the same location, Jan. 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. A variety of organizations, on and off post, attend the event to provide information to new APG employees. For more information, call Army Community Service Relocation Readiness at 410-278-2464/7572.

Operation Helping Hand assists hurricane survivors

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needs," said Owens, noting that Operation Helping Hand does not supplant relief efforts by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Red Cross.

Needed supplies include cleaning materials, bleach, eating utensils, non-perishable foods, winter clothing, blankets, flashlights, batteries, and other

standard emergency provisions.

Two noncommissioned officers departed APG with the locally donated supplies, en route to Fort Hamilton the morning of Nov. 7.

Owens said he realizes people want to help but some don't know where to turn. He said anyone who would like to

donate supplies can bring them to the chapel, which will serve as a "clearing house for the next couple of weeks."

Also assisting relief efforts is APG's Catholic Parish Council Coordinator Cathy Day, who is delivering emergency food and supplies to the Sayre Bible Church in Old Bridge, N.J., an area that

was particularly hard hit.

"She's doing this on her own time as a private citizen," said Owens, adding that several people from the chapel community have offered to transport items as needed in their personal vehicles.

For more information, call APG's main post chapel at 410-278-4333.